AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

Claims 1-25 (Canceled).

26. (Currently Amended) A machine for producing a tubular product by helical winding and gluing of strips of web material, comprising a mandrel, a winding member constructed and arranged to helically wind in an overlapping and staggered manner at least two strips of web material around said mandrel to form a tubular product, at least one pressure member cooperating with said mandrel and, in combination with said winding member, ~~is~~ disposed along a path of the tubular product being formed on said mandrel, wherein said at least two strips of web material include an adhesive operatively applied on a surface thereof and ~~pressure exerted by~~ said pressure member is constructed and arranged to exert pressure against said mandrel and thereby to said at least two strips of web material present on said mandrel to promote ~~promotes~~ adhesion of the strips and ~~forming~~ form the tubular product.

27. (Previously Presented) The machine as claimed in claim 26, wherein said winding member comprises a belt forming a helical turn about the mandrel and about the strips being wound around the mandrel.

28. (Previously Presented) The machine as claimed in claim 26 or 27, wherein said at least one pressure member comprises at least one wheel and an actuator to stress the at least one wheel and the mandrel against each other.

29. (Previously Presented) The machine as claimed in claim 28, wherein said at least one wheel is positioned to act on an outer surface of the tubular product at a level of an edge line of adjacent turns of an outermost strip of web material forming the tubular product.

30. (Previously Presented) The machine as claimed in claim 29, wherein said wheel includes a circular edge disposed at an inclination, with respect to an axis of the mandrel, essentially equal to an inclination of a helical winding of said at least two strips of web material.

31. (Previously Presented) The machine as claimed in claim 30, wherein the circular edge of said wheel has a series of protuberances.

32. (Previously Presented) The machine as claimed in claim 31, wherein said protuberances comprise teeth.

33. (Previously Presented) The machine as claimed in claim 30, wherein inclination of an axis of rotation of the wheel is adjustable with respect to the axis of the mandrel.

34. (Previously Presented) The machine as claimed in claim 28, wherein said at least one wheel is carried by a support arranged to slide in a sleeve and torsionally constrained to said sleeve.

35. (Previously Presented) The machine as claimed in claim 34, wherein said sleeve is arranged to be locked in an angularly adjustable position with respect to a fixed load-bearing structure.

36. (Currently Amended) ~~The machine as claimed in claim 35,~~ A machine for producing a tubular product by helical winding and gluing of strips of web material, comprising a mandrel, a winding member constructed and arranged to helically wind in an overlapping and staggered manner at least two strips of web material around said mandrel to form a tubular product, at least one pressure member cooperating with said mandrel and, in combination with said winding member, disposed along a path of the tubular product being formed on said mandrel, wherein pressure exerted by said pressure member promotes adhesion of the strips forming the tubular product,

wherein said at least one pressure member comprises at least one wheel and an actuator to stress the at least one wheel and the mandrel against each other,

wherein said at least one wheel is carried by a support arranged to slide in a sleeve and torsionally constrained to said sleeve,

wherein said sleeve is arranged to be locked in an angularly adjustable position with respect to a fixed load-bearing structure,

wherein said sleeve comprises a flange with slotted holes to lock said sleeve in said angularly adjustable position.

37. (Previously Presented) The machine as claimed in claim 26, wherein said at least one pressure member comprises at least one supporting element for said mandrel.

38. (Previously Presented) The machine as claimed in claim 37, wherein said at least one pressure member comprises two angularly staggered supporting elements arranged to provide the mandrel with a reaction force to stress applied by said at least one wheel.

39. (Previously Presented) The machine as claimed in claim 38, wherein contact points between said at least one wheel and the tubular product being formed on the mandrel and between said at least one supporting element and said tubular product lie approximately on a plane orthogonal to an axis of the mandrel.

40. (Previously Presented) The machine as claimed in claim 26 or 27, wherein said pressure member comprises two wheels acting on the tubular product being formed around said mandrel.

41. (Previously Presented) The machine as claimed in claim 40, wherein said two wheels are arranged to act on an outer surface of the tubular product, a first wheel of said two wheels at a level of a joining line of adjacent turns formed by an outermost strip of web material and a second wheel of said two wheels at a level of a joining line of adjacent turns formed by an innermost strip of web material.

42. (Previously Presented) The machine as claimed in claim 40, wherein said two wheels are disposed staggered by about 180° around an axis of the mandrel and in a position wherein a straight line uniting contact points of the two wheels with the tubular product being formed on the mandrel is approximately orthogonal to the axis of the mandrel.

43. (Previously Presented) The machine as claimed in claim 28, wherein said at least one wheel is motorized.

44. (Previously Presented) The machine as claimed in claim 26, wherein said pressure member is positioned downstream of the winding member.

45. (Previously Presented) The machine as claimed in claim 26, wherein said pressure member is positioned upstream of the winding member.

Claims 46-50 (Canceled).

51. (New) The machine as claimed in claim 26, wherein the at least one pressure member comprises:

at least one wheel;

an actuator to stress the at least one wheel and the mandrel against each other; and

at least one supporting element for the mandrel, contrasting an action of the at least one wheel,

wherein the at least one wheel and the supporting member are arranged around the mandrel such that the tubular product advances between the mandrel and the at least one wheel and the supporting element.

52. (New) The machine as claimed in claim 36, wherein said winding member comprises a belt forming a helical turn about the mandrel and about the strips being wound around the mandrel.